

bound book, a true and faithful abstract of offers made to him for carrying the mail, embracing as well those which are rejected, as those which are accepted. The said abstract shall contain the names of the party or parties offering; the terms on which he or they propose to carry the mail, the sum for which it is offered to contract; and the length of time the agreement is to continue. And it shall also be the duty of the Postmaster General to put on file preserve the originals of the propositions of which abstracts are here directed to be made, and to report at each session of Congress a true copy from the said record of all offers made for carrying the mail as aforesaid.

Sec. 26. And be it further enacted, That if any person employed in the Post Office Department or postmaster shall become interested in any mail contract or act as agent, with or without compensation, in any matter or thing relating to business in said Department, for any contractor, or person offering to become a contractor, he shall be forthwith dismissed from office, and shall be liable to pay so much money as would have been realized from said contract, to be recovered in an action of debt in any court having jurisdiction thereof, in the name of the United States, for the use of the Post Office Department; and it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to cause prosecution to be instituted.

Sec. 27. And be it further enacted, That every proposal for the transportation of the mail shall be accompanied by a written guaranty, signed by one or more responsible persons to the effect that he or they undertake that the bidder or bidders will, if his or their bid be accepted enter into an obligation in such time as may be prescribed by the Postmaster General, with good and sufficient sureties, to perform the service proposed. No proposal shall be considered, unless accompanied by such guaranty. If after the acceptance of a proposal, and notification thereof to the bidder or bidders, he or they shall fail to enter into an obligation within the time prescribed by the Postmaster General, with good and sufficient sureties for the performance of the service, then the Postmaster General shall proceed to contract with some other person or persons, for the performance of the said service, and shall forthwith cause the difference between the amount contained in the proposal so guaranteed, and the amount for which he may have contracted for the performance of said service, for the whole period of the proposal, to be charged against the said bidder or bidders, and his or their guarantor or guarantors, and the same may be immediately recovered by the United States, for the use of the Post Office Department, in an action of debt against either or all of the said persons.

Sec. 28. And be it further enacted, That no contract for the transportation of the mail shall knowingly be made by the Postmaster General, with any person who shall have entered into any combination, or proposed to enter into any combination, to prevent the making of any bid for a mail contract by any other person or persons; or who shall have made any agreement, or shall have given or performed, or promised to give or perform, any consideration whatever, in order to induce any other person or persons not to bid for a mail contract. And if any person so offending be a mail contractor, he may be forthwith dismissed from the service of the Department: Provided, That whenever the Postmaster General shall exercise the power conferred on him by the section, he shall transmit a copy or statement of the evidence on which he acts to Congress, at its next session.

Sec. 29. And be it further enacted, That no person whose bid for the transportation of the mail may be accepted, shall receive any pay, until he shall have executed his contract according to law and the regulations of the Department; nor shall any payment be made for any additional regular service in the transportation of the mail, unless the same shall have been rendered in obedience to a prior legal order of the Postmaster General.

Sec. 30. And be it further enacted, That so much of the act concerning the Post Office Department, approved March third, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, as directs that duplicates or copies of contracts or orders made by the Postmaster General shall be lodged in the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, be repealed.

Sec. 31. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to furnish to postmasters at the termination of each route, a schedule, specifying the times of arrival and departure at their offices, respectively, of each mail, a copy of which the postmaster shall post up in some conspicuous place in his office; and the Postmaster General shall also furnish a notice in like manner, of any change or alterations in the arrivals and departures which may be ordered by him. And it shall be the duty of every postmaster promptly to report to the Department every delinquency, neglect, or malpractice of the contractors, their agents or carriers that may come to his knowledge. And the Postmaster General shall cause to be kept, and returned to the Department, at short and regular intervals, by postmasters at the ends of routes, and such others as he may think proper, registers, showing the exact time of the arrivals and departures of the mails.

Sec. 32. And be it further enacted, That if any postmaster shall unlawfully detain in his office any letter, package, pamphlet, or newspaper, with intent to prevent the arrival and delivery of the same to the person or persons to whom

such letter, package, pamphlet or newspaper may be addressed or directed in the usual course of the transportation of the mail along the route; or if any postmaster shall, with intent, as aforesaid, give a preference to any letter, package, pamphlet, or newspaper, over another, which may pass through his office, by forwarding the one and retaining the other, he shall, on conviction thereof, be fined in a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars, and imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, and shall, moreover, be forever thereafter incapable of holding the office of postmaster in the United States.

Sec. 33. And be it further enacted, That there shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a Deputy Postmaster for each post office at which the commissions allowed to the postmaster amounted one thousand dollars or upwards in the year ending the thirtieth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five, or which may, in any subsequent year, terminating on the thirtieth day of June, amounting to or exceed that sum, who shall hold his office for the term of four years, unless sooner removed by the President.

Sec. 34. And be it further enacted, That assistant postmasters and clerks regularly employed and engaged in post offices, shall be exempt from militia duties, and serving on juries, and from any fine or penalty for neglect thereof.

Sec. 35. And be it further enacted, That advertisements of letters remaining in post offices, may, under the direction of the Postmaster General, be made in more than one newspaper; Provided, That the whole cost of advertising shall not exceed four cents for each letter.

Sec. 36. And be it further enacted, That no postmaster shall receive free of postage, or frank, any letter or packet composed of, or containing any thing other than paper (of money) and for a violation of this provision, the offender shall be dismissed from office, and upon conviction in any court of competent jurisdiction, pay a fine of twenty dollars. And no person shall hold the office of postmaster who shall not be an actual resident of the city or town wherein the office is situated, or the district of country usually supplied by said office.

Sec. 37. And be it further enacted, That when any one or more of the sureties of a postmaster shall notify to the Postmaster General their desire to be released from their suretyship, or when the Postmaster General shall deem it necessary, he shall require the said postmaster to execute a new bond with security, which, when accepted by the Postmaster General, shall be as valid as the bond given upon the original appointment of said postmaster, and the sureties in the prior bond shall be released from responsibility for all acts or defaults of said postmaster, which may be done or committed subsequent to the acceptance of the new bond, the date of which shall be endorsed thereon. Provided, That payments made subsequent to the execution of the new bond by said postmaster shall be applied first to discharge any balance which may be due on the old bond, unless he shall, at the time of payment, expressly direct them to be applied to the credit of his new account.

Sec. 38. And be it further enacted, That if any person shall be necessary after the fact, to the offence of stealing or taking the mail of the United States, or of stealing or taking any letter or packet, or enclosure in any letters or packet sent or to be sent in the mail of the United States, from any post office in the United States, or from the mail of the United States, by any person or persons whatever, every person so offending as aforesaid, shall, on conviction thereof, pay a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and be imprisoned for a term not exceeding five years; and such accessory after the fact may be tried, convicted, and punished in the district in which his offence was committed, though the principal offence may have been committed in another district, and before the trial of the principal offender: Provided, such principal offender has fled from justice, or cannot be arrested to be put upon his trial.

Sec. 39. And be it further enacted, That in case the Postmaster General shall deem it expedient to establish an express mail, in addition to the ordinary mail, on any of the post roads in the United States, for the purpose of conveying slips from newspapers in lieu of exchange newspapers, or letters, other than such as contain money, not exceeding half an ounce in weight, marked "express mail," and public despatches, he shall be authorized to charge all letters and packets carried by such express mail with triple the rates of postage to which letters and packets, not free, may be by law subject, when carried by the ordinary mails.

Sec. 40. And be it further enacted, That in case of the death, resignation, or absence of the Postmaster General, all his powers and duties shall devolve for the time being, on the First Assistant Postmaster General.

Sec. 41. And be it further enacted, That the Postmaster General shall be authorized, whenever the same, may be proper for the accommodation of the public in any city to employ letter carriers for the delivery of letters received at the post office in said city, except such as the persons to whom they are addressed may have requested, in writing, addressed to the postmaster, to be retained in the post office; and for the receipt of letters at such places in the said city as the Postmaster General may direct, and for the deposit of the same in the post office; and for the

delivery by a carrier of each letter received from the post office, the person to whom the same may be delivered shall pay not exceeding two cents; and for the delivery of each newspaper and pamphlet, one-half cent; and for every letter received by a carrier to be deposited in the post office, there shall be paid to him, at the time of the receipt, not exceeding two cents; all of which receipts, by the carriers in any city, shall, if the Postmaster General so direct, be accounted for to the postmaster of said city, to constitute a fund for the compensation of the said carriers, and be paid to them in such proportions and manner as the Postmaster General may direct. Each of the said carriers shall give bond with sureties, to be approved by the postmaster General, for the safe custody, and delivery of letters, and for the due account and payment of all moneys received by him.

Sec. 42. And be it further enacted, That the Postmaster General shall be authorized in his discretion, to contract for carrying the mail on the navigable canals of the several States, in all cases where, in his opinion, the public interests and convenience shall require it, and for the time during which mails may be carried on such canals or any parts thereof, the same are hereby declared to be post roads.

Sec. 43. And be it further enacted, That the following annual salaries shall be allowed to the Assistant Postmasters General, and to the clerks, messengers, and watchmen provided for the service of the Post Office Department, viz:

To the three Assistant Postmasters General, each twenty five hundred dollars.

To the chief clerk, two thousand dollars.

To the three principal clerks, each one thousand six hundred dollars.

To ten clerks, each one thousand four hundred dollars.

To fifteen clerks, each one thousand two hundred dollars.

To eight clerks, each one thousand dollars.

To the messenger, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

To the three assistant messengers, each three hundred and fifty dollars.

To the two watchmen, each three hundred dollars.

Sec. 44. Be it further enacted, That the following annual salaries shall be allowed to the Auditor of the Post Office Department, and to the clerks and messengers herein provided for the service of his office, viz:

To the auditor, three thousand dollars.

To the chief clerk, two thousand dollars.

To the four principal clerks, each one thousand six hundred dollars.

To ten clerks, each one thousand four hundred dollars.

To twenty clerks each one thousand two hundred dollars.

To eight clerks, each one thousand dollars.

To the messenger, seven hundred and fifty dollars.

Sec. 45. And be it further enacted, That the sum of three millions one hundred and fifty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the service of the post office department for the year commencing on the first day of July one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, out of any moneys in the Treasury, arising from the revenues of the Department, to be accounted for in the manner pointed out in the second section of this act.

Sec. 46. And be it further enacted, That this act shall be in force and take effect from the passage thereof.

JAMES K. POLK,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

W. R. KING,
President of the Senate pro tempore.

Approved, 2d July, 1836.
ANDREW JACKSON

The United States and Mexico.

From the Nashville Republican, Aug. 6.
GEN. GAINES' REQUISITION.—We delay the publication of our paper to a later hour than usual, for the purpose of laying before the public the following documents, with which we have been furnished by the Governor:

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 4, 1836.
Sir:—Major General Gaines, to whom the command of the western border of Louisiana has been assigned, has notified this Department that he has called upon your excellency for a brigade of militia, the whole, or as many of them as practicable, to be mounted.

I am instructed by the President to request your Excellency to call into the service of the United States the number of militia which have been, or may be, required by General Gaines, to serve not less than three months after their arrival at the places of rendezvous, unless sooner discharged. Very respectfully, your obt. servant,

LEWIS CASS.

His Excellency N. CANNON,
Governor of Tennessee, &c.

WAR DEPARTMENT, July 25, 1836.
Sir:—Major General Gaines has apprized this Department that he has made a requisition upon your Excellency for a regiment of mounted gun-men for the service of the United States.

Copies of the despatches received from General Gaines have been transmitted to the President of the United States, who will issue such orders upon them as he may think the circumstances require. Meantime I have the honor to inform you that, in order to prevent any inconvenience or delay, in the event of the confirmation of Gen. Gaines' requisition by the President, a disbursing officer will be ordered to proceed to the state of Tennessee with the necessary funds. Very respectfully, your most obt. servant,

C. A. HARRIS,
Acting Sec. of War.

His Excellency N. CANNON,
Governor, &c.

The above letters from the War Department having been enclosed to the President by the Governor, the following was received in answer:
HERMITAGE, Aug. 6, 1836.
Sir:—I have received your letters of the 20th ult. and the 4th instant, accompanied by the copies of communications which were addressed to you on the 4th of May, and the 25th July, by the Secretary of War, and also accompanied by your Proclamation of the 20th founded on the requisition made by General Gaines, bearing date the 20th of June last.—The documents referred to in the communication to you of the 25th ult. from the War Department, have not yet been received.

The obligations of our treaty with Mexico, as well as the general principles which govern our intercourse with foreign powers, require us to maintain a strict neutrality in the contest which now agitates a portion of that Republic. So long as Mexico fulfils her duties to us as they are defined by the treaty, and violates none of the rights which are secured by it to our citizens, any act on the part of the Government of the United States, which would tend to foster a spirit of resistance to the government and laws, whatever may be their character or form, when administered within her own limits and jurisdiction, would be unauthorized and highly improper. A scrupulous sense of these obligations has prevented me thus far from doing any thing which can authorize the suspicion that our government is unmindful of them, and I hope to be equally cautious and circumspect in all my future conduct. It is in reference to these obligations that the requisition of Gen. Gaines in the present instance must be considered; and unless there is a strong necessity for it, it should not be sanctioned. Should this necessity not be manifest, when it is well known that the disposition to befriend the Texans is a common feeling with the citizens of the United States, it is obvious that that requisition may furnish a reason to Mexico for supposing that the government of the United States may be induced, by inadequate causes, to overstep the lines of the neutrality which it professes to maintain.

Before I left Washington, Gen. Gaines intimated to the Department of War that some indications of hostilities from the Indians on our western frontier had been made, and that if it became necessary, he would make a call for the militia. He had also informed the department of his ill health, and asked for a furlough to enable him to visit the White Sulphur Springs. I directed the Secretary of War to grant him the furlough, and to inform him of the apportionment which had been made of the 10,000 militia under the recent volunteer act; and if the emergency should arise which would make it necessary to increase the force under his command, that a thousand volunteers in Arkansas, and another in Missouri, raised agreeably to this act, would be enrolled and held ready for the service.—This force, aided by the portions of the dragoon regiments that would be stationed in that quarter, and those of the regular army already there, were deemed amply sufficient for the protection of the frontier near to the Indians referred to. There are no reasons set forth in the requisition which the General has since made upon you, to justify the belief that the force above enumerated will be insufficient, and I cannot therefore sanction it at the present time. To sanction that requisition for the reasons which accompany it, would warrant the belief that it was done to aid Texas, and not from a desire to prevent an infringement of our territorial or national rights.

I deeply regret that the Tennessee Volunteers, whose prowess and patriotism are displayed so promptly on all occasions that threaten the peace or safety of their beloved country, have been called out on this occasion without proper consideration. They can for the present only be mustered into the service and discharged. If there are funds appropriated out of which they can be paid, an order to this effect will be given.

The ten thousand volunteers authorized under the late act of Congress are intended for one year's service, and must be employed to meet all necessary calls for the defence of our frontier borders.—Should the occasion arise for a greater number on the Western frontier, the call would be made on Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. There is, however, no information to justify the apprehension of hostilities, to any serious extent, from the Western Indians. Should a necessity arise, the volunteer Brigade from East Tennessee will be ordered to the Western frontier as soon as their service can be dispensed with where they now are employed.

I would barely add further, that the authority given you by the order of the 4th of May having been satisfied by yielding to the requisition of General Gaines, a new authority from the Department of War was necessary to authorize you to comply with that of the 28th of June. The Government of the United States having adopted, in regard to Mexico and Texas, the same rule of neutrality which had been observed in all similar cases before, it was not to have been expected that General Gaines should have based this requisition for additional military force on reasons plainly inconsistent with the obligation of that rule.

Should Mexico insult our national flag, or invade our territory, or interrupt our citizens in the lawful pursuits guaranteed to them by the treaty, then the Government will promptly repel the insult, and take speedy reparation for the injury.—

Very respectfully,
A. J.

Very respectfully,
ANDREW JACKSON,
Governor of Tennessee.

But it does not seem that offences of this character have been committed by Mexico, or were believed to have been, by Gen. Gaines.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
ANDREW JACKSON,
Governor of Tennessee.

P. S.—Before closing this letter, the documents referred to by the acting Secretary of War as having been transmitted to me, have been received.

Texas.

BLOCKADE OF MATAMORAS.

A PROCLAMATION.
By the President of the Republic of Texas.
To all whom these presents shall come: Know ye that I, David G. Burnet, President of the Republic of Texas, by and with the advice and consent of the Cabinet, do order, decree, and proclaim the port of Matamoras, in Tamaulipas, and Republic of Mexico, comprising the mouth of the Rio Grande and the Brassos Santiago, and also the inlets, estuaries, and passes east of it, that now and hereafter may be in possession of Mexico, and from and after the date of this proclamation, in a state of absolute blockade by the armed vessels of this nation.

And for the purpose of carrying this proclamation into complete effect, an armed naval force now is and will continue to be kept at or near the said port, inlet, and passes, entirely sufficient to enforce this decree.

For any breach, or effort at breach of this blockade, the offending vessel and cargo will be liable to confiscation, and the officers and mariners of such vessel will be subject to all the penalties attached to a breach of blockade.

This decree shall take effect as to vessels sailing from New Orleans within three days after its publication in that city, and within five days as to vessels from any other neutral ports within the Gulf of Mexico; and within twenty days as to any other port of the United States north of the Gulf of Mexico; and within forty-five days as to vessels sailing from any of the ports of Europe.

Done at Velasco, on the 21st July, A. D. 1836, and first of the Independence of the Republic of Texas.

DAVID G. BURNET,
W. H. JACK, Secretary of State.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 9.
From the Merchants Exchange Bulletin Board.
Extract from a letter, dated
Matamoras, July 29th 1836.

The Comanche Indians a few nights past came in to Matamoras and stole about 700 horses belonging to the Mexican cavalry, and committed other depredations. The Mexican troops between 3 and 4,000 have positively refused to march into Texas until they have been paid what was due them—the officers in command endeavor to pacify them by saying that the conduct is duly expected from the interior with \$200,000. Gen. Filisola's defence was published in the Mexican papers and reflects great discredit on the Mexican soldiers.

The Texian prisoners in this place are compelled daily (in chains) to sweep and cleanse the streets!

Since writing the foregoing I have just heard from good authority, that some of the principal officers of the Mexican army have declared that they will not go into Texas until a sufficient quantity of provisions has been sent before them, and they must be paid their arrears, as they will no longer trust to the promises of the Mexican Government.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 13.
We have latterly received very little new information from Texas. The state of things there would seem to be rather of a stationary character. Our sympathy in regard to the Mexican movement, is in a train of fulfilment, their great army being still at head quarters (Matamoras) and manifesting no particular anxiety to come in collision with the Texans. The Texian army, from all we can learn increase in number and confidence, and rather courts an engagement with Mexican prowess, than longer to endure the ennui of inaction.

We believe that the liberties of Texas will be effectually protected from Mexican invasion before the close of another year, that their declaration of rights will be successfully maintained; further that their total emancipation from Mexico will be effected, and civil and religious freedom secured to the lawful sovereign—the people of Texas.

A letter from Com. Dallas, dated at Pensacola, 9th August to a gentleman of this city, states, that he should dispatch a vessel of war in a few days to call off the Mississippi, and take under convoy any vessels bound to Matamoras or Tampico, from whence she would return with any specie that might be ready for shipment to New Orleans.

It is understood that Com. Dallas will not permit the blockade of Matamoras by the Texans to interfere with the trade under the American flag.

Sheriff's Sale.

By virtue of Sundry Executions to me directed, will be sold before the Court House in Camden, on the first Monday in September next, within the usual hours of sale,

One tract of land containing
90 ACRES,

more or less, on the waters of Bear creek, Head waters of Twenty-five mile creek, adjoining lands of Thomas Salmonds and others, levied on as the property of Samuel Peake alias Samuel Tedwell, at the suit of Summers & Cureton, and others.

J. C. WEST S K D
August 13—29—1f

Saddle and Harness Making.

The subscriber tenders his thanks to the public for the encouragement heretofore extended to him, in his profession, and gives notice that he has removed to Broad Street, a few doors above Mrs. M'Adams' Hotel, where he hopes by assiduity and attention, to merit a continuance of the patronage heretofore extended to him.
JAMES ROBERTS.
August 6—29—1f